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CLAIMS

1. A method for reducing the energy consumption during a sub-program step, e.g. "cleaning" and "rinsing" in a washing program in a dishwasher, characterised in that in a first step the washing liquid is heated to a predetermined temperature and during this heating phase the washing liquid substantially does not impinge on the dishes in the dishwasher and in a second step, the washing liquid heated to the predetermined temperature reaches the dishes which have essentially not been heated.
2. The method according to claim 1, characterised in that the heating phase is ended at the latest when the dishes have reached the predetermined temperature for the washing liquid.
3. The method according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the washing liquid is circulated by means of a circulating pump so that the heat distribution inside the washing liquid is substantially homogeneous.
4. The method according to any one of claims 1 or 2, characterised in that the washing liquid is guided by a flow section separated from the spraying system and the washing liquid can thus be heated without wetting the dishes.
5. The method according to any one of claims 1 or 2, characterised in that the washing liquid is heated to a specific temperature in a preheating container.

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6. A dishwasher for implementing the method according to any one of the preceding claims characterised in that the dishwasher has a flow section which is arranged and embodied so that the washing liquid flows through this flow section and is thereby heated and during the heating is substantially not applied to the dishes located in the dishwasher.
7. The dishwasher according to claim 6, characterised in that a container is provided with a heating device.
8. The dishwasher according to claim 6 or 7, characterised in that means are provided to manually switch an operation of the method according to any one of claims 1 to 5.